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## Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0304

June 28, 2006

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The Honorable George W. Bush  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On May 15, 2006, the Louisiana delegation sent a letter asking you to extend the current deadline for debris removal in Louisiana's hurricane-affected regions. The deadline is set to expire on June 30; therefore, I am writing again to urge you to promptly move to extend the period of 100 percent reimbursement for the emergency work designated under categories A and B of the Federal Emergency Management Administration's Categories of Work specifications.

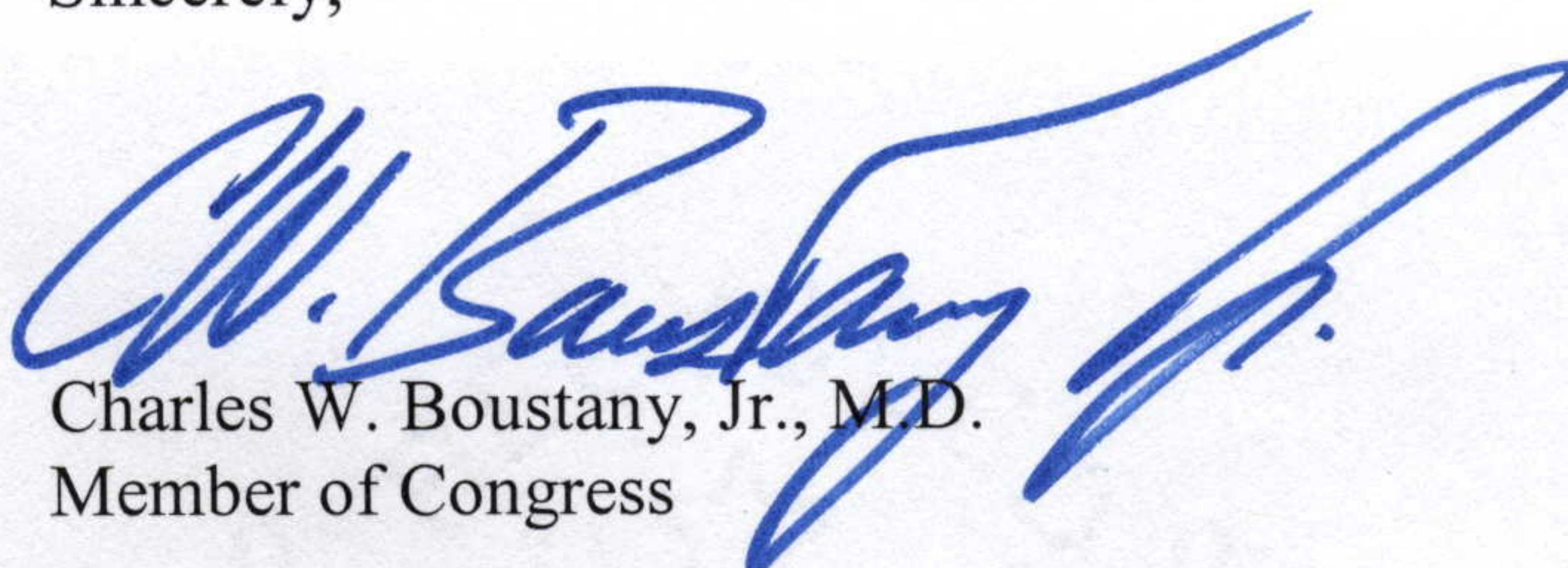
While much progress has been made in our state, a great deal of work remains. For example, many public buildings in Cameron Parish have yet to be demolished. In the community of Holly Beach, debris removal is only 25 percent complete. Without a 100 percent reimbursement extension, local governments will be forced to use already scarce funds to finish the work.

Clean-up teams in the storm-ravaged parishes have already hauled away 25 times more debris than was removed from Ground Zero in the months following the September 11<sup>th</sup> terrorist attacks, but Louisiana still has much work to do on its path to recovery. A policy of 100 percent reimbursement is critical to ensuring the continuation of these essential recuperation efforts.

In the wake of other national tragedies such as September 11<sup>th</sup> and Hurricane Andrew, the 100 percent federal share was extended indefinitely. I urge you to give the citizens of Southwest Louisiana the same consideration.

Thank you in advance for your timely consideration of this matter. I appreciate the Administration's efforts in the recovery of the Gulf Coast.

Sincerely,



Charles W. Boustany, Jr., M.D.  
Member of Congress